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In reply to: RM-9208

Office of the Secretary, Room 222
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Dear FCC:

I am writing to you today to add my support and suggestions to the Petition for Rule Making on the issue of Low Power (community) Radio. I have read the texts that are available on the subject and agree that such a service must exist, however I also believe that there must be other issues that should be added to the proposal. First I believe that the maximum height for the transmitting antenna should be higher than the proposed 50 feet, a more reasonable height would be approximately 100 feet, the reason for this is that in urban areas, the transmitting antenna may be surrounded by buildings taller than it on three sides, and a height of only 50 feet would not allow quality transmissions. I also believe that there should be a higher maximum allowable power than the proposed one (1) watt, a more reasonable level would be a maximum of approximately five (5) watts, with a maximum ERP of ten (10) watts. The reason for a higher power is the same as the reason above for the maximum antenna height- that in most metropolitan areas, tall buildings will block a one (1) watt signal from covering a small area effectively. I also propose that instead of just one AM, and FM channel in each area being designated for use by Low Power (Community) radio stations, that any available channel in the area be allowed to be used for Low Power broadcasts. I also propose that the requirements for first, and second adjacent channels should be lessened, as (1) Most radios manufactured today are almost immune to co-channel, and adjacent channel interference, and (2) a maximum ERP of ten (10) is not going to hurt the reception of a 60,000 watt station on the second adjacent channel 10 miles away. I also propose that you require air a required amount of community oriented programming (such as church services, city council meeting, etc.) I also think that you should grant licenses on a 4 year basis, and at the end of the four years, the station would be evaluated and if no complaints issued, then the license renewed. I believe that such a Low Power service as outlined above will allow many communities to hear programming that is not available in the mainstream media. Uses for such services will allow the home bound and elderly for example to hear public debates, and express their views on call in programs. All combined a service like this is needed in almost all communities, in every state. I urge you to approve this petition and add the community voice to the air waves.

Respectfully,

Lidia Zelaya

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